

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/691,207

Examiner

Tai T. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

DUPEIRE, WESLEY J.

Art Unit

2632

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 09/26/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-15,17-20,22,27,28,30 and 32-40.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Richardson (Reg. No. 40,142) on November 22, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Specification:

Page 5, at the end of paragraph 23, insert ---wherein the housing has a forward surface with a height and width defining a surface area that is less than about 14 in², wherein the housing is compactly configured with bounds thereof being substantially coextensive with a portion of an electrical socket cover plate to allow visual access to a GFI reset on the electrical socket cover plate and wherein the device has a weight that is self-supported upon plug into an electrical socket in the electrical socket cover plate--- after "and the like)".

In the claims:

Claim 1, line 4, insert ---wherein the housing has a forward surface with a height and width defining a surface area that is less than about 14 in², wherein the housing is compactly configured with bounds thereof being substantially coextensive with a portion

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of an electrical socket cover plate to allow visual access to a ground fault interruption (GFI) reset on the electrical socket cover plate and wherein the device has a weight that is self-supported upon plug into an electrical socket in the electrical socket cover plate--- after "therewith".

Claim 12, line 4, insert ---wherein the housing has a forward surface with a height and width defining a surface area that is less than about 14 in², wherein the housing is compactly configured with bounds thereof being substantially coextensive with a portion of an electrical socket cover plate to allow visual access to a ground fault interruption (GFI) reset on the electrical socket cover plate and wherein the device has a weight that is self-supported upon plug into an electrical socket in the electrical socket cover plate--- after "therewith"

Cancel claim 16.

Claim 18, line 6, insert ----a timer in communication with the electrical circuit configured for determining a duration of the power disruption---- after "wall outlet".

Claim 22, line 3, insert ", wherein the mounting step is carried out by mounting the device to a wall outlet having ground fault interruption (GFI) circuit in a compact manner whereby the device occupied only a portion of a electrical outlet cover panel and allows visual access to a GFI reset on the cover panel, and the mounting step is further carried out by inserting male conductors into a female outlet in a dual outlet wall cover panel, wherein the alert device has a forward surface with a height and width, each being less than about 3 inches, and a depth that is less than about 1 inch, wherein the device provides a single female electrical receptacle and is substantially

coextensive with a portion of the wall female electrical outlet cover panel, and wherein the alert device without a battery weighs less than about 8 ounces” after “an electrical outlet”.

Cancel claims 23 and 31.

Claim 38, line 4, delete “wherein the housing provides a single female electrical receptacle and is compactly configure to be substantially coextensive with a portion of a wall female electrical outlet cover panel that provides the electrical outlet” after “therewith,” and insert ---wherein the housing has a forward surface with a height and width defining a surface area that is less than about 14 in², wherein the housing is compactly configured with bounds thereof being substantially coextensive with a portion of an electrical socket cover plate to allow visual access to a ground fault interruption (GFI) reset on the electrical socket cover plate and wherein the device has a weight that is self-supported upon plug into an electrical socket in the electrical socket cover plate--- after “therewith,”.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-15, 17-20, 22, 27-28, 30, and 32-40 allowed (renumbered as 1-32).
3. The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance: many references in the art disclose a power interruption device comprising a housing with a plurality of male conductors extending outwardly therefrom, the male conductors sized and configured to enter an electrical wall outlet to be in electrical communication therewith; an electronic circuit configured to response to a power disruption in the

electrical wall outlet; and a speaker in communication with the electronic circuit, wherein, in operation, an audible alert is output by the speaker when power to the electrical wall outlet is disrupted, such as found in Sanders et al. (US 5,663,711).

Regarding claims 1, 12, 18, 38-39, the prior art of record does not teach or suggest, in the claimed combination, a self-contained power disruption device that is disposable after a single power disruption and having a housing having a forward surface with a height and width defining a surface area that is less than about 14 in², wherein the housing is compactly configured with bounds thereof being substantially coextensive with a portion of an electrical socket cover plate to allow visual access to a ground fault interruption (GFI) reset on the electrical socket cover plate and wherein the device has a weight that is self-supported upon plug into an electrical socket in the electrical socket cover plate.

Regarding claim 22, the prior art of record does not teach or suggest, in the claimed combination, a method for generating an alert when power is disrupted to an electrical outlet that including a specific detail of a mounting a self-contained power disruption alert device to an electrical outlet, wherein the mounting step is carried out by mounting the device to a wall outlet having ground fault interruption (GFI) circuit in a compact manner whereby the device occupied only a portion of a electrical outlet cover panel and allows visual access to a GFI reset on the cover panel, and the mounting step is further carried out by inserting male conductors into a female outlet in a dual outlet wall cover panel, and a specific dimension of the alert device that has a forward surface with a height and width, each being less than about 3 inches, and a depth that

is less than about 1 inch, wherein the device provides a single female electrical receptacle and is substantially coextensive with a portion of the wall female electrical outlet cover panel, and wherein the alert device without a battery weighs less than about 8 ounces.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tai T. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-2961. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 7:30am-5:00pm..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel J. Wu can be reached on (571) 272-2964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tainguyen", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

Tai T. Nguyen
Examiner
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November 22, 2005